



Washington State Commission on

Asian Pacific American Affairs

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E-Legislative Update

April 15 – 21, 2013



April 15th marks the beginning of the fourteenth week of the legislative session. Wednesday, April 17th is the last day to consider opposite house bills except initiatives and alternatives to initiatives, budgets and matters necessary to implement budgets, differences between the houses, and matters incident to the interim and closing of the session. You can [contact your legislator](#) making your position on a bill known. You can do so by writing a letter, sending an e-mail, calling the legislator's Olympia office, or by calling the Legislative Hotline at 1-800-562-6000.

Because the state budget is an overarching issue, the Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs will provide updates on important milestones in budget development as well as focus on bills that impact the Asian American and Pacific Islander community in the areas of education, health care, human services, economic development, and immigration. To learn more about the current budget, you can attend the House Appropriations and Senate Ways & Means committee hearings.

The Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs will be providing information weekly through our e-legislative update and website on committee hearings, bills, and other events of interest throughout the legislative session. Our e-legislative update provides a general overview highlighting a few bills of interest to the community while our website hosts a more extensive list of bills utilizing a [bill tracking](#) feature for those community members seeking more information. Highlights from the previous week can be viewed on [TVW's](#) Legislative Review.

Special Highlights: The Senate released its budget proposal on April 3rd followed by the House's budget proposal on April 10th. The House budget proposes to close a projected deficit of more than \$1.2 billion for the next two-years. Budget proposals can be viewed [here](#). Legislative leaders from the House, Senate, and the Governor's Office are currently negotiating a budget. The legislative session is scheduled to end on April 28, 2013.

Here is a brief comparison on a few issues. The House proposes spending \$34.5 billion, more than \$1 billion beyond the proposal approved by the Senate. The House proposal would increase K-12 education funding by \$1.3 billion while the Senate would increase it by \$1 billion to address the State Supreme Court ruling. The House proposal supports repealing or narrowing 15 tax exemptions while the Senate proposal does not. The House proposal preserves more funding for human services compared to the Senate's proposal. Both the House and Senate proposals opt into Medicaid expansion under the new Affordable Care Act. The Senate proposal would repeal the cost-of-living adjustments for teachers, while the House suspends it.

Below are some scheduled meetings and hearings that might be of interest to you.

Economic Development

Technology & Economic Development

04/17/13 8:30 am

House Full Committee
House Hearing Rm C
John L. O'Brien Building
Olympia, WA

Work Session: Interim Planning: Recommendations for the Technology & Economic Development Committee. (PUBLIC COMMENT WELCOME.)

1. Trade & Economic Development.
2. Telecommunications.
3. Technology.

Information is current as of: April 11, 2013.

To find out more information on a particular bill, please visit <http://www.leg.wa.gov>.

CAPAA was established by the state legislature in 1974 to improve the well-being of Asian Pacific Americans (APAs) by insuring their access to participation in the fields of government, business, education, and other areas. It has a board made up of 12-governor appointed members that represent the diverse APA communities of Washington State.

To receive more electronic updates, visit us at <http://www.capaa.wa.gov>. To unsubscribe, [click here](#).